Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Previously presented) A method of encoding a video signal representing a sequence of pictures to form an encoded video signal, the method comprising receiving a first picture or a part thereof, encoding the first picture or said part thereof, using a first encoding mode, without reference to another picture of the sequence to form a first encoded representation of the first picture or said part thereof, and encoding said first picture or said part thereof, using a second encoding mode, with reference to another picture of the sequence to produce a corresponding temporally predicted second encoded representation of the first picture or said part thereof.

2.   (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein every picture or part thereof encoded without reference to another picture is also encoded with reference to another picture of the sequence to form a corresponding temporally predicted second encoded representation of each respective picture or part.

3.   (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein said first picture or part thereof is encoded with reference to another picture occurring in the sequence temporally prior to said first picture.

4.   (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein said first picture or part thereof is encoded with reference to another picture occurring in the sequence temporally after said first picture.

5.   (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein said first picture or part thereof is encoded with reference to one or more other pictures occurring in the sequence.

6.   (Previously presented) A video encoder comprising an input for receiving a video signal representing a sequence of pictures, the encoder being arranged to encode a first picture of the sequence or a part thereof, received at the input, using a first encoding mode without reference to another picture of the sequence to form a first encoded representation of the first picture or said part thereof, and to encode said first picture or said part thereof, using

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a second encoding mode, with reference to another picture of the sequence to produce a corresponding temporally predicted second encoded representation of the first picture or said part thereof.

7.   (Previously presented) A video codec including a video encoder, the video encoder comprising an input for receiving a video signal representing a sequence of pictures, the encoder being arranged to encode a first picture of the sequence or a part thereof, received at the input, using a first encoding mode, without reference to another picture of the sequence to form a first encoded representation of the first picture or said part thereof, and to encode said first picture or said part thereof, using a second encoding mode, with reference to another picture of the sequence to produce a corresponding temporally predicted second encoded representation of the first picture or said part thereof.

8.   (Previously presented) A multimedia system including a video encoder, the video encoder comprising an input for receiving a video signal representing a sequence of pictures, the encoder being arranged to encode a first picture of the sequence or a part thereof, received at the input, using a first encoding mode, without reference to another picture of the sequence to form a first encoded representation of the first picture or said part thereof, and to encode said first picture or said part thereof, using a second encoding mode, with reference to another picture of the sequence to produce a corresponding temporally predicted second encoded representation of the first picture or said part thereof.

9.   (Previously presented) A method of encoding a video signal representing a sequence of pictures to form an encoded video signal, the method comprising receiving a segment of a first picture or part thereof, encoding the segment of the first picture or part thereof using a first encoding mode without reference to another picture of the sequence to form a first encoded representation of the first picture segment or said part thereof, and encoding at least said segment of said first picture or part thereof using a second encoding mode with reference to another picture of the sequence to produce a corresponding temporally predicted second encoded representation of the first picture segment or said part thereof.

10.   (Canceled)

11.   (Canceled)

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12.   (Previously presented) A portable electronic device incorporating a video encoder, the video encoder comprising an input for receiving a video signal representing a sequence of pictures, the encoder being arranged to encode a first picture of the sequence or a part thereof, received at the input, using a first encoding mode, without reference to another picture of the sequence to form a first encoded representation of the first picture or said part thereof, and to encode said first picture or said part thereof, using a second encoding mode with reference to another picture of the sequence to produce a corresponding temporally predicted second encoded representation of the first picture or said part thereof.

13.   (Currently amended) A multimedia system including a video codec, the codec comprising a video encoder, the video encoder comprising an input for receiving a vide signal al representing a sequence of pictures, the encoder being arranged to encode a first picture of the sequence or a part thereof, received at the input, using a first encoding mode, without reference to another picture of the sequence to form a first encoded representation of the first picture or said part thereof, and to encode said first picture or said part thereof, using a second encoding mode with reference to another picture of the sequence to produce a corresponding temporally predicted second encoded representation of the first picture or said part thereof.

14.   (Canceled)

15.   (Canceled)

16.   (Previously presented) A video encoder according to claim 6, comprising a controller arranged to control processing means to encode a first picture or a part thereof received at the input.

17.   (Canceled)

18.   (Previously presented) A video encoder according to claim 6, wherein the first encoding mode is an INTRA coding mode.

19.   (Previously presented) A video encoder according to claim 6, wherein the second encoding mode is an INTER coding mode.

20.   (Previously presented) A video encoder according to claim 6, wherein the second encoding mode provides a P frame.

21.   (Previously presented) A video encoder according to claim 6, wherein the second encoding mode provides a B frame

22.   (Previously presented) A video encoder according to claim 6, wherein the second encoding mode is a forward prediction mode.

23.   (Previously presented) A video encoder according to claim 6, wherein the second encoding mode is a backward prediction mode.

24.   (Previously presented) A video encoder according to claim 16, wherein the controller is arranged to determine which picture is to be encoded in the first encoding mode based on feedback signaling from a decoder.

25.   (Previously presented) A video encoder according to claim 16, wherein the controller is arranged to determine which picture is to be encoded in the first encoding mode based on prediction error.

26.   (Previously presented) A video encoder according to claim 6, wherein the first picture or part thereof is associated with a scene cut.

27.   (Previously presented) A video encoder according to claim 6, wherein the first picture or part thereof is associated with the very first picture of a video sequence .

28.   (Previously presented) A video encoder according to claim 16, wherein the controller is arranged to control processing means to encode said first picture or part thereof in said first encoding mode at regular periodic intervals.

29.   (Previously presented) A video encoder according to claim 6, wherein said other picture corresponds to the picture temporally closest to the first picture or said part thereof, said temporally closest picture or part thereof to be encoded in the first encoding mode.

30.   (Previously presented) A video encoder according to claim 6, wherein the encoder is arranged to transmit encoded pictures or parts thereof in the order in which the pictures or said parts thereof are encoded.

31.   (Previously presented) A video encoder according to claim 6, wherein the encoder is arranged to transmit pictures encoded in the first mode in groups without interspersing pictures encoded in a mode other that the first mode.

32.   (Previously presented) A video encoder according to claim 6, wherein said other picture is a picture encoded in the first mode.

33.   (Previously presented) A video encoder according to claim 6, wherein the video encoder is arranged to encode a third representation of the first picture or said part thereof, the third representation being encoded with respect to a different other picture than the second representation .

34.   (Previously presented) A video encoder according to claim 16, wherein the encoder comprises a switch arranged to allow switching of the processing means between the first and second encoding modes.

35.   (Canceled)

36.   (Previously presented) A method of encoding a video signal according to claim 1, wherein the first picture or part thereof is associated with a scene cut.

37.   (Previously presented) A method of encoding a video signal according to claim 1, comprising encoding a third representation of the first picture or said part thereof, the third representation being encoded with respect to a different other picture than the second representation.

38.   (Canceled)

39.   (Canceled)